

Message Text

PAGE 01 DAR ES 02382 131507Z

46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 PC-04

OMB-01 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

RSR-01 /154 W

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P R 131221Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3556

INFO AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USUN NEW YORK 438

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2382

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, MCAP, TZ, BY

SUBJECT: TANZANIA-BURUNDI: MORE BORDER DIFFICULTIES

1. SUMMARY: BURUNDI FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES HOSTILE RECEPTION
IN DAR ES SALAAM. TANZANIAN RHETORIC ON BORDER SITUATION RISES
SHARPLY. TANZANIAN AND BURUNDI TROOPS REPORTEDLY CLASH ON BORDER.
END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO JULY 13 RADIO TANZANIA REPORT, BURUNDI FOREIGN
MINISTER SIMBANANIYE ARRIVED TANZANIA JULY 12 WITH MESSAGE FROM
MICOMBERO FOR NYERERE. RADIO TANZANIA IN LEAD ITEM SAID BURUNDI
IS RELUCTANT TO PAY COMPENSATION FOR TANZANIANS KILLED IN BORDER
ATTACK LAST MARCH. NEWS REPORT REFERRED TO ANOTHER "DISPLAY

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PAGE 02 DAR ES 02382 131507Z

OF TUTSI ARROGANCE" AND MENTIONED "HUTU GENOCIDE" BY RULING
CLIQUE IN BURUNDI. REPORT ADDED THAT HUTUS ARE CONTINUING
TO FLEE THE COUNTRY IN TO TANZANIA.

3. RADIO TANZANIA ALSO BRIEFLY MENTIONED BORDER CLASH BETWEEN BURUNDI AND TANZANIA TROOPS ON JULY 12. LOCAL NEWSMAN DISCUSSED INCIDENT WITH DEFENSE MINISTER SOKOINE MONRING JULY 13. SOKOINE SAID CLASH LASTED FROM 1600 TO 1800 JULY 12 AND INVOLVED UNIT OF TANZANIAN PEOPLE'S DEFENSE FORCE (TPDF) AND REGULAR BURUNDI TROOPS. ACCORDING TO SOKOINE, BURUNDI FORCES TRIED TO ESTABLISH MORTAR POSITION INSIDE TANZANIAN TERRITORY. TANZANIANS REPORTEDLY ATTACKED SITE AND DROVE BURUNDI FORCES BACK ACROSS BORDER. IN PROCESS THEY CAPTURED SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT BURUNDI MATERIAL. ACCORDING TO SOKOINE, THERE WERE NO TANZANIAN CASUALTIES AND HE DID NOT KNOW IF ANY WERE INCURRED BY BURUNDI FORCES. SOKOINE AND HIGH-LEVEL SIX-MAN TPDF TEAM DEPARTED DAR ES SALAAM TODAY FOR KIGOMA.

4. TANZANIAN PRIME MINISTER KAWAWA STRONGLY CONDEMNED BURUNDI ATTACKS ON TANZANIANS IN COMMENTS BEFORE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY JULY 12. KAWAWA SAID GOT WAS SHOCKED WHEN BURUNDI MILITARY FORCES AGAIN ATTACKED "OUR VILLAGES IN JUNE CAUSING LOSS OF LIVES AND PROPERTY". KAWAWA ADDED THAT "WE CANNOT TOLERATE ATTACKS FROM BURUNDI ANYMORE. AT SAME TIME, TANZANIA DOES NOT WANT TO GO TO WAR WITH BURUNDI. BUT IF THEY ATTACK AGAIN, WE SHALL PUT END TO IT". COMMENTING ON VIEWS EXPRESSED BY SOME MEMBERS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY THAT PEOPLE LIVING IN KIGOMA REGION ARE LIVING IN FEAR, KAWAWA SAID ONLY SOLUTION TO SITUATION IS TO IMPLEMENT TANU'S CALL FOR MILITIA TRAINING.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE MAJOR MILITARY CONFLICT IS LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE BETWEEN BURUNDI AND TANZANIA. LOGISTICAL SITUATION AND SMALL NUMBER OF TROOPS IN VICINITY MILIZATE AGAINST SUCH EVENT. LATEST IN SERIES OF INCIDENTS, HOWEVER, HIGHLIGHTS UNSTABLE CHARACTER OF BORDER SITUATION AND MAY WELL PORTEND ADDITIONAL SIMILAR INCIDENTS.

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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